GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1593
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
SHORTAGE OF TECHNICAL MANPOWER
V. VETRISELVAN

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shortage of technical manpower and soldiers in the Army;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to improve the intake of officers in the technical caders and soldiers in the Army?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The shortage of officers in the Technical Arms is approximately 26%. The level of deficiency in respect of Personnel Below Officer Ranks (PBORs) is in the range of 5% to 6% of the authorized manpower.

(c) Officers: Several steps have been undertaken by the Army to fill up the vacant posts in Technical Arms. Intake into 10+2 Technical Entry Scheme, which caters to officers in Technical Arms/Services has been enhanced. The Image Projection Campaign by the Army has been launched in 1997 and currently Phase-III of the Campaign is under way. In addition, seminars, lectures and presentations are also organized by the Recruiting Offices at Schools and Colleges in order to motivate the youth to join the Army and the training capacity of the Army has been increased to facilitate increased intake.

(PBORs): The requisite number of personnel against the existing deficiency in the technical trades have been recruited.They would be posted to the units on completion of their technical phase of training.